

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (**canceled**)

Claim 2 (**canceled**)

Claim 3 (**canceled**)

Claim 4 (**canceled**)

Claim 5 (**canceled**)

Claim 6 (**canceled**)

Claim 7 (**canceled**)

Claim 8 (**canceled**)

Claim 9 (**canceled**)

Claim 10 (**canceled**)

Claim 11 (**canceled**)

Claim 12 (**canceled**)

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended) A multilayer structure comprising a metal layer or a metallized-substrate layer (5) and a binder layer (6) comprising polypropylene, extrusion-coated at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto the metal or metallized-substrate layer, said layers (6, 5) being made non-delaminable by heat treating the said structure to a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer (6), and a polypropylene layer (2) having a melting point above the melting point of the binder, the binder layer (6) being sandwiched between the metal layer or metallized-substrate layer (5) and the polypropylene layer (2), wherein said structure is peelable between binder layer (6) and polypropylene layer (2), and said binder layer (6) comprises by weight:

- 5 to 30% of a copolymer (A) based on ethylene and one or more comonomers chosen from the group consisting of carboxylic acid esters, vinyl esters and dienes;

- 40 to 93% of a stretchable polypropylene (B), stretchability being defined as the ability of a rod extruded at a temperature of between 190°C and 240°C and pulled at a pull rate of between 50 and 250 m/min. without breaking;

- 2 to 30% of an additional polypropylene (C) functionalized by an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride;

- the MFI of the composition being between 10 and 50 g/10 min. at 230°C/2.16 kg.~~extrusion grade polypropylene.~~

Claim 17 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 16, wherein the heat treatment is carried out by infrared radiation, by passing it through a hot air or induction-heating tunnel.

Claim 18 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 16, wherein said structure comprises polypropylene layers (7) and (2) having a melting point above the melting point of the binder, the binder layer (6) being sandwiched between the metal layer or metallized-substrate layer (5) and the polypropylene layer (7), the heat treating being at a temperature below the melting temperature of the polypropylene layer (7).

Claim 19 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 18, wherein said structure is peelable with a peel force for peeling a binder layer (6) off the polypropylene layer (7,2) of between 8 and 15 N/15 mm.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (currently amended) A structure according to claim 16 20, wherein the copolymer (A) of the binder comprises an ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate copolymer containing from 5 to 40% by weight of alkyl (meth)acrylate, the MFI being between 0.5 and 200 g/10 min. at 190°C/2.16 kg.

Claim 22 (currently amended) A structure according to claim 16 20, wherein the copolymer (A) of the binder comprises an ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/maleic anhydride copolymer

containing from above 0 to 10% by weight of maleic anhydride and from 2 to 40% by weight of alkyl (meth)acrylate, the MFI being between 0.5 and 200 g/10 min. at 190°C/2.16 kg.

Claim 23 (currently amended) A structure according to claim 16 20, wherein the copolymer (A) of the binder is a blend of copolymers (A), of an ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate copolymer containing 5 to 40% by weight of alkyl (meth)acrylate, and of an ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/maleic anhydride copolymer containing from above 0 to 10% by weight of maleic anhydride and from 2 to 40% by weight of alkyl (meth)acrylate.

Claim 24 (currently amended) A structure according to claim 16 20, in which the proportion of polypropylene (C) in the binder is between 1.5 and 6% by weight, said polypropylene (C) containing from 1.5 to 6% by weight of maleic anhydride.

Claim 25 (currently amended) A structure according to claim 16 20, in which the proportion of polypropylene (C) in the binder is between 10 and 25% by weight, said polypropylene (C) containing from 0.8 to 1.5% by weight of maleic anhydride.

Claim 26 (currently amended) A structure according to claim 16 20, in which the proportion of polypropylene (C) in the binder is between 3 and 5% by weight, said polypropylene (C) containing from 1.5 to 3% by weight of maleic anhydride.

Claim 27 (currently amended) A cover (4) comprising a metal layer or a metallized-substrate layer (5) and a binder layer (6) comprising polypropylene, extrusion-coated at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto the metal or metallized-substrate layer, said layers (6, 5) being made non-delaminable by heat treating the said structure to a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer (6), in contact with a polypropylene container ~~a structure according to claim 16~~, in which the metal of the metal or metallized-substrate layer (5) is aluminium.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (previously presented) A package made with a structure according to claim 16.

Claim 30 (previously presented) A package according to claim 29, characterized in that it is sterilizable and resistant to food acids and high-performance solvents and greases.

Claim 31 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 21, wherein the ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate copolymer contains 10-40% by weight of the alkyl acrylate.

Claim 32 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 22, wherein the ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/maleic anhydride copolymer contains 5 to 40% by weight of the alkyl meth(acrylate).

Claim 33 (previously presented) A process of producing the multi-layer structure of claim 16, comprising the step of extrusion-coating said binder layer at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto said metal or metallized substrate layer, and heat treating the resultant extrusion coated structure at a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer.

Claim 34 (currently amended) A process of producing the multi-layer structure of claim 18, comprising the step of extrusion-coating said binder layer at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto said metal or metallized substrate layer, and heat treating the resultant extrusion coated structure at a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer, said heat treating being at a temperature below the melting temperature of the polypropylene layer ~~layers (7) and (2)~~.

Claim 35 (previously presented) A process of producing the multi-layer structure of claim 20, comprising the step of extrusion-coating said binder layer at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto said metal or metallized substrate layer, and heat treating the resultant extrusion coated structure at a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer.

Claim 36 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 16, wherein said structure is peelable with a peel force for peeling the binder layer (6) off the polypropylene layer (2) of between 8 and 15 N/15 mm.

Claim 37 (canceled)

Claim 38 (currently amended) A multilayer structure comprising a metal layer or a metallized-substrate layer (5) and a binder layer (6) comprising polypropylene, extrusion-coated at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto the metal or metallized-substrate layer, said layers (6, 5)

being made non-delaminable by heat treating the said structure to a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer (6), and a polypropylene layer (2) having a melting point above ~~the melting point of the binder~~, the binder layer (6) being sandwiched between the metal layer or metallized-substrate layer (5) and the polypropylene layer (2), ~~the heat treating being at a temperature below the melting temperature of the polypropylene layer (2)~~, wherein said structure is peelable between binder layer (6) and polypropylene layer (2), and said binder layer (6) comprises a copolymer (A) based on ethylene and carboxylic acid esters, vinyl esters and dienes; polypropylene (B), and additional polypropylene (C) functionalized by an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride.

Claim 39 (previously presented) A structure according to claim 38, wherein copolymer (A) is not grafted.

Claim 40 (currently amended) A multilayer structure comprising a metal layer or a metallized-substrate layer (5) and a binder layer (6) comprising polypropylene, extrusion-coated at a rate of more than 100 m/min. onto the metal or metallized-substrate layer, said structure having been heat treated to a temperature above the melting point of the binder layer (6), and a polypropylene layer (2) ~~having a melting point above the melting point of the binder~~, the binder layer (6) being sandwiched between the metal layer or metallized-substrate layer (5) and the polypropylene layer (2), wherein said structure is peelable between binder layer (6) and polypropylene layer (2), and said binder layer (6) comprises a copolymer (A) based on ethylene and carboxylic acid esters, vinyl esters and dienes; polypropylene (B), and additional polypropylene (C) functionalized by an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride ~~extrusion-grade polypropylene~~.